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## **Holocaust insurance claim deadline extended to Sept. 30**

**FRANKFORT, Ky.** - Holocaust survivors and their heirs have until Sept. 30, 2002, to file insurance claims with the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims.

The original Feb. 15 deadline is being extended to allow the International Commission time to collect additional policyholder names from companies and researchers, process the information, and publish names of potential claimants on its Web site with adequate time for the public review.

The lists are on the commission Web site at <http://www.icheic.org/>. Inclusion on the lists is not a guarantee of payment. But it suggests a policy was in effect during the relevant period (1920-1945) and that the policy may not have been paid. By the same token, these lists may not include all potential claims, and people should not be discouraged from filing claims simply because their name or the names of family members do not appear on any published lists. Anyone who believes he or she has a valid life, education, or dowry policy is encouraged to present the claim to the commission.

There is no charge for filing a claim with the commission and it is not necessary to hire a lawyer. Claim forms may be obtained by calling the International Commission toll-free at **(800) 957-3203** or visiting the commission Web site.

Many claims against insurance purchased by European Jews went unpaid because of the tumult of the Holocaust and World War II. There was no systematic process for helping beneficiaries obtain payment until creation in 1998 of the International Commission on Holocaust Era Insurance Claims.